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Wednesday January 07 2015

UK HOMEPAGE

Advertisers ride wave of social influencers

Word of mouth marketing gets new lease of life as brands look to click with consumers

BoE directors kept in dark during crisis

Minutes from key years show lack of trust for Court

Osborne quashes May student visa plan

Chancellor acts after warnings from universities and business

VIDEO

A Kroton of hope in Brazil?

Has the demise of the commodities super-cycle done for Brazil? Lex's Oliver Ralph and Robert Armstrong discuss a non-cyclical alternative — private education, where Kroton is a leading player.

US HOMEPAGE

Oil price rout takes Brent to fresh lows

Decline in number of active US oil rigs fails to halt slide

Obama names ex-community banker for Fed

Allan Landon selection will answer complaints of Wall St dominance

White House says Obama to veto Keystone

President will not sign pipeline bill if it passes Congress

EUROPE HOMEPAGE

Ukraine bonds sink as debts spiral

FT debt analysis tool highlights extent of Kiev's tattered finances

Boehner tested as Republicans take charge

Victory lap turns into a reminder of challenges the House speaker faces from the party right

Sausages at centre of EU-US trade row

German minister's comments about a finger-sized pork sausage from Nuremberg cause storm of protest

ASIA HOMEPAGE

Public finances: A world of debt

The global crisis left many economies heavily indebted. But there are ways policy makers can repair the damage

More steep Asian equity losses seen

Motorola returns to China's phone market

Strategic shift follows mobile maker's sale to Lenovo

WORLD NEWS

Syriza priority is to tame Greek oligarchs

Move could be welcomed by international lenders

Germany counters Islamisation protests

Newspaper attack draws backing from 50 prominent individuals

Shell agrees £55m Nigeria spills payout

Oil company to pay 15,000 fishermen average £2,000 each

Murakami to become ‘agony uncle’

Reclusive Japanese novelist to answer ‘curveball enquiries’ on his website

India-Pakistan tensions rise after clashes

Border fighting reportedly kills five people as civilians abandon homes in Kashmir

COMPANIES NEWS

Google and Samsung enter smart TV duel

CES announcements highlight rivalry in ‘internet of things’ between the smartphone partners

Tesco to intensify supermarket price war

Retailer expected to announce wave of discounts on Thursday

Cyber heist halts bitcoin exchange

Bitstamp says about $5m worth of virtual currency lost

Oil rout mixed blessing for buyout firms

Tumble in prices creates buying opportunities even as some investments sour

SpaceX reschedules rocket test flight

Technical fault forces private company to cancel mission during countdown

MARKETS

Stocks under pressure as oil resumes fall

10-year Treasury yield slides below 2%

Finra to investigate US bond trading

Review will look at debt pricing and electronic platforms

Investors bet on good year for US shares

Note of caution enters with concerns on growth and falling commodity prices

Iron ore bounce likely to be shortlived

Further supply to come on line this year while demand stays weak

German bonds at new low on haven move

Yields on 10-year Bunds fell to 0.44 per cent as rush to safety gathers momentum

COMMENT

An economist's advice to astrologers

The world economy shows growth prospects for the year

How financiers reversed equality

Growth of banking sector has helped turn back egalitarian trend

The spinners and the fourth estate feud

Business leaders are being groomed to join 'the conversation', writes John Lloyd

Politicians should not isolate insurgents

Excluding parties undermines democracy, write Chris Bickerton and Carlo Invernizzi-Accetti

Motherhood, pre-midlife and social media

The changing dynamics of a friend set are hard to ignore

MANAGEMENT

Grandson's quest to revive faded Tibor

Sam Reich has taken on the challenge of restoring his family's once-famous designer textile name

City Link shows the risk in turnrounds

The company's problems were probably irreversible but now it must treat its staff decently

Team cares more about loo rolls than budget

Financial targets and cash constraints cause colleagues' eyes to glaze over

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